

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

SAJ-01 L-02 OIC-02 TAR-01 EURE-00 /093 W

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O 061217Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8816

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

USMISSION OECD PARIS IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 4021

DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE AND STR: ROME PASS AMBASSADOR  
GREENWALD; US OECD PARIS PASS J. KATZ

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EAGR, EEC

SUBJECT: MTN: ORGANIZATION OF AGRICULTURE GROUP

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 3995

B) STATE 103973

C) EC BRUSSELS 3891

1. SUMMARY: THE EC COMMISSION HAS AGREED TO SEVERAL OF  
THE CHANGES IN THE PROPOSED CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP REQUESTED  
IN REF B. RABOT, IN GIVING US THESE AMENDMENTS, WHICH  
INCLUDE MOVING UP PARA 5 IN THE TEXT TRANSMITTED IN REF :,  
EMPHASIZED THAT THESE MODIFICATIONS HAD BEEN DISCUSSED  
WITH AND APPROVED BY LARDINOIS, BUT THAT NO FURTHER RE-  
VISIONS COULD BE ACCEPTED BY THE COMMISSION. END SUMMARY.

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2. RABOT, THE EC COMMISSION'S DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE, CALLED IN THE CHARGE AT OPENING OF BUSINESS MAY 6. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE US REQUESTS FOR CHANGES IN THE TEXT AGREED TO ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30 FOR SUBMISSION TO HIGHER AUTHOIRITIES (GIVEN IN REF :, PARA 4), SEENED AT FIRST COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO HIM AND SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES. HOWEVER, ON REFLECTION AND AFTER DISCUSSION WITH LARDINOIS AND HIJZEN HE WAS NOW PREPARED, ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION, TO ACCEPT SEVERAL OF THE CHANGES SUGGESTED. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE COMMISSION IS WILLING TO MOVE UP OLD PARAGRAPH 5, BUT FEELS IT "ILLOGICAL" TO PLACE THIS PARAGRAPH AFTER OLD PARAGRAPH 2. IT FEELS THAT THE PROPER POSITION FOR IT IS AFTER PARAGRAPH 1 AND BEFORE OLD PARAGRAPH 2 WHICH, IN THE COMMISSION'S VIEW, IS AN INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH TO OLD PARAGRAPH 3. THE COMMISSION ALSO WISHES TO MOVE UP OLD PARAGRAPH 5 TO FOLLOW OLD PARAGRAPH 5.

3. THE COMMISSION IS ALSO WILLING TO ACCEPT THE CHANGES IN WORDING TO OLD PARAGRAPH 5 PROPOSED BY THE US. IT PROPOSES, HOWEVER, A MERGING OF THE LAST TWO SENTENCES OF OLD PARAGRAPH 5, INVOLVING SOME REWORDING. THE NEW TEXT WOULD READ AS FOLLOWS: "IN SUCH CASES, THE GROUP AND ITS SUBGROUPS WILL CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH THE AGRICULTURAL ASPCTS OF THESE MATTERS AND WILL TREAT THEM IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE WORK OF THE TARIFFS AND NON-TARIFF MEASURES GROUPS AND THE RESULTS OF THIS WORK WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO OTHER GROUPS CONCERNED WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT THE HARMONIOUS AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENT OF ALL THE ELEMENTS SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION IN FURTHERANCE OF PARAGRAPH 8 OF THE TOKYO DECLARATION."

4. THE OTHER TWO MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED BY THE US ARE, HOWEVER, UNACCEPTABLE TO THE COMMISSION:

A. RABOT STATED THAT THE WORDS " ALL THE" IN OLD PARAGRAPH 3 WERE RETAINED THERE ON THE BASIS OF FULL DISCUSSION OF BOTH SIDES' REQUIREMENTS ON APRIL 30. US PROBLEMS REGARDING THE CONNOTATION OF "EXCLUSIVITY" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN THE PHRASEOLOGY SHOULD BE MET, IN THE COMMISSION'S VIEW, BY THE WORDING AND THE MOVING FORWARD OF OLD PARAGRAPH 5.

B. INSERTION OF "INTER ALIA TO DEVELOP AN INTERNATIONAL GRAINS RESERVE AGREEMENT" IN OLD SUBPARAGRAPH 3A IS ALSO UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE OF THE "INCONGRUITY" OF THE GENEVA GROUP'S SPECIFYING THE NATURE OF THE WORK TO BE DONE IN LONDON. RABOT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD

THE POLITICAL BACKGROUND TO US INTEREST IN THE WORK IN LONDON, BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT FOR THE US TO HAVE OBTAINED THE LANGUAGE ALREADY IN OLD SUB-PARAGRAPH 3A (SUBPARA 5A OF THE NEW TEXT)/.

5. RABOT ASKED WHETHER OMISSION OF A SUBROUP ON SUGAR WAS A KEY POINT FOR THE US. WE RESPONDED THAT WE WERE NOT SURE THAT IT WAS. HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT SOME MEMBER STATES WANTED SUCH A SUBGROUP. THESE SAME MEBMER STATES MIGHT BE UNHAPPY WITH THE LANGUAGE OF THE PROPOSED CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP. THE COMMISSION WAS NOT NOW PROPOSING INSERTION OF REFERENCE TO A SUBROUP ON SUGAR, BUT WISHES TO FOREWARN US THAT IT MIGHT EVENTUALLY PROPOSE SUCH A SUBGROUP AS PART OF A DEAL TO GAIN MEMBER STATE ACCEPTANCE OF THE SUMMING UP AS A WHOLE.

6. RABOT EMPHASIZED THAT THE MODIFICATIONS HE WAS AGREEING TO WERE FINAL SO FAR AS THE COMMISSION WAS CONCERNED. LARDINOIS HAD ONLY WITH DIFFICULTY BEEN PERSUADED TO ACCEPT THEM. WE RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD TRANSMIT THE COMMISSION'S COUNTERPROPOSALS TO WASHINGTON AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE AND RECOMMEND A QUICK RESPONSE. WE NOTED THAT, JUST AS THE COMMISSION HAD DIFFICULTIES WITH THE COMPROMISE TEXT, THE ISSUES WERE DIFFICULT FOR WASHINGTON ALSO.

7. THE MISSION NOTES THAT LARDINOIS--WHOSE ATTITUDE, WE ARE TOLD, IS NOT FAVORABLE TO FURTHER US REQUESTS--IS CURRENTLY OUT OF TOWN; HE RETURNS LATE TODAY, BUT, WE UNDERSTAND, LEAVES FOR EGYPT SOMETIME TOMORROW. SOAMES IS IN CHINA AND WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL MAY 19. GUNDELACH IS OUT OF TOWN TODAY, AND IN ANY EVENT, HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT TAKEN PART IN THIS DISCUSSION AND HAS NO SPICAL MANDATE FROM SOAMES OR OTHER COMMISSIONERS TO INVOLVE HIMSELF IN IT.

8. THE COMMISSION HAS GIVEN US ITS AMENDED VERSION OF THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP WHICH IS BEING TRANSMITTED BY IMMEDIATE SEPTTEL.

9.COMMENT: THE COMMISSION, ALTHOUGH NOT WILLING TO ACCEPT ALLL OUR POINTS--INCLUDING THE REFERENCE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GRAINS RESERVE AGREEMENT IN LONDON--HAS BEEN WILLING TO ACCEPT CHANGES WHICH SEEM TO THE MISSION TO IMPROVE THE TEXT BY STRENGTHENING THE EMPHASIS ON NON-EXCLUSIVITY AND BY MAKING IT CLEARER THAT THIS PRINCIPLE APPLIES TO THE COMMODITY SUBGROUPS, AS WELL

AS TO THE AGRICULTURE GROUP ITSELF. GIVEN THE TIME PRESSURES,  
IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT FURTHER CHANGES COULD BE OBTAINED  
BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE AGRICULTURE GROUP IN GENEVA ON  
MAY 8, OR EVEN THAT A SHORT POSTPONEMENT WOULD PERMIT  
SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE COMMISSION'S POSTURE. THE  
PRACTICAL CHOICE, THEREFORE, APPEARS TO BE BETWEEN ACCEPTING  
THE TEXT IN THE LATEST FORM OR POSTPONING THE AGRI-  
CULTURE GROUP MEETING FOR SEVERAL WEEKS TO TAKE A  
FRESH LOOK.  
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